

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for courtesies extended during the Examiner Interview of June 8, 2005.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-32 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 13, 14, 21, 25, 31, and 32 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 14, 21, and 25.

Objections

The disclosure is objected to by the Examiner because the "Cross Reference to Related Applications" section is not updated. The specification has been amended by this reply to update the information in this section. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,098,064 ("Pirolli"). Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify the present invention as recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claimed invention is related to a method and system for analyzing and instrumenting an existing distributed application to intercept all method calls from the client side of the application to the server side. At runtime, the instrumented application caches data retrieved

from the server side and monitors usage patterns of object attributes on the client side. These usage patterns are used to pre-fetch data from the server side (*See Specification, page 8, lines 1-4*).

In contrast to the claimed invention, Pirolli relates to pre-fetching documents from a server to a client computer based on the need priority of documents. Specifically, Pirolli discloses computing the need probability using a client's document history (*i.e.*, the frequency in use of documents) and document context factor (*i.e.*, assessing the content of a current set of documents in use as well as a focus set of documents specified by a user).

Turning to the rejection of the claims, claim 1 has been amended to recite "intercepting a call between the client and the server *of the distributed application* in order to collect information about objects accessed on the server during the call, *wherein a first portion of the distributed application runs on the client and a second portion of the distributed application runs on the server, and wherein information is collected based on usage patterns of object attributes on the client.*" In particular, claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the claimed invention is specifically directed toward pre-fetching information for a distributed application, portions of which run on multiple nodes (*i.e.*, including the client node and the server node) of a network.

Further, claim 1 now recites that the information collected for pre-fetching is based on the client's usage of object attributes from the server. Thus, it is clear that information pre-fetched in Pirolli is based on document usage and document need priorities, whereas information pre-fetched in the claimed invention are objects based on object attributes used by the client. Further, it is clear that Pirolli does not pre-fetch documents for a distributed application. Rather,

in Pirolli, the documents are pre-fetched for one client computer, not a distributed application running on multiple nodes.

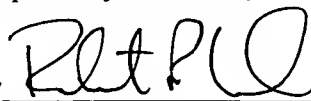
In view of the above, it is clear that Pirolli fails to disclose each and every element of amended independent claim 1. Dependent claims 2-12 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Further, independent claims 13, 14, 21, 25, 31, and 32 have been amended to include similar allowable subject matter, and are patentable over Pirolli for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1. Dependent claims 15-20, 22-24, and 26-30 are patentable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 16159/024001; P6424).

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Respectfully submitted,

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